

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

JANUARY 20, 1891.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. SAWYER, from the Committee on Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany H. R. 12998.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 12998) granting an increase of pension to Joseph J. Bartlett, have examined the same, and report:

The report on which this bill was passed by the House is concurred in, and is appended hereto.

The bill is reported favorably with a recommendation that it do pass.

House Report No. 3478, Fifty-first Congress, second session.

JANUARY 16, 1891.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

Mr. SAWYER, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany H. R. 12998.]

The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 12998) granting an increase of pension to Joseph J. Bartlett, submit the following report:

The military record of Brevet Maj. Gen. Joseph J. Bartlett is as follows: In April, 1861, Joseph J. Bartlett enlisted as a private soldier in Binghamton, N. Y., where he had just commenced the practice of law. Upon the organization of the company he was elected captain. Upon the organization of the Twenty-seventh Regiment of Volunteers at Elmira he was elected major of the regiment.

At the first battle of Bull Run, after Colonel Slocum was wounded, he was placed in command of the regiment by the colonel's order. A few weeks after the battle Colonel Slocum was promoted to brigadier-general and Major Bartlett to colonel of the Twenty-seventh. Immediately upon landing at West Point, on the Peninsula, the provisional Sixth Army Corps was organized, General Franklin commanding. This gave General Slocum command of Franklin's division, and Colonel Bartlett the command of Slocum's brigade. A reconnaissance made by Colonel Bartlett at Mechanicsville was so successful that General McClellan continued him in command of his brigade, although general officers were sent from Washington to report to General McClellan for assignment to duty.

At the battle of Gaines' Mill Colonel Bartlett's brigade reported to General Sykes for duty, and, with the regular troops, held the right of General Porter's line successfully until the close of the battle, losing five hundred and four men killed and wounded, including all but three of his field officers.

For this battle he received the warm praise of Generals Franklin, Slocum, Sykes, Porter, and McClellan in their reports. He also received the same for services rendered during all the seven days fighting.

At the battle of the Second Bull Run he covered the retreat of the Army to Centreville. At the battle of South Mountain his brigade led the column of attack of the First Division, Sixth Corps, at "Crampton's Gap," breaking the enemy's line at the foot of the mountain, driving him beyond the crest, and securing the road for the passage of our troops.

At Antietam he engaged with the balance of the corps. For his services up to this date he was recommended by General McClellan for

promotion to brigadier-general, which he received about ten days after.

From this period until the close of the war he also engaged in every battle of the Army of the Potomac. At the battles of Marye's Heights, Second Fredericksburgh, and Chancellorsville he was with Sedgwick's Sixth Army Corps.

The accompanying extracts, taken from the official Confederate reports of the battle of Chancellorsville, will best illustrate General Bartlett's vigorous style of fighting and the estimation in which he was held by the enemy:

Extract from "Chancellorsville," by Jedediah Hotchkiss, captain and topographical engineer on Stonewall Jackson's staff, and William Allan, lieutenant-colonel and chief of ordnance, same staff. D. Van Nostrand, 192 Broadway. 1867. Pages 86, 87, 88.

SALEM CHURCH.

After shelling the woods to the right and left of the road a short time, the Union troops advanced. A brisk skirmish ensued. The Confederate skirmishers were pushed back to the wood and then upon their line of battle. The Federal line followed quickly. Reaching the edge of the wood they gave a cheer and rushed forward to the charge. On, on they come to within 80 yards of the opposing line. Here they receive the Confederate fire which has been reserved; well directed and at close quarters its effect is fearful. A scene of carnage presents itself. The line wavers under the withering fire, but it is only for a moment. Bartlett dashes on. He surrounds the schoolhouse and captures the garrison; then pushing forward to the line in the rear, he delivers all the impetus of his attack on the regiment stationed there. It wavers, yields, breaks. A little farther on and the victory had been won. Wilcox has a regiment (Ninth Alabama) in reserve just behind this part of his line. In a moment he hurls this upon the advancing troops. The Alabamians deliver a deadly fire at close quarters and rush forward to gain what had been lost. Gallantly does Bartlett strive to hold the advantage won at such cost. A fierce struggle and in turn the Federal line gives way. No time is allowed it to rally. Wilcox follows closely, increasing at each step the carnage in the Federal ranks. The schoolhouse is reached, the captured garrison is set free, and their captors are in turn captives. On the other side of the road the attack, which was not vigorous, has also been repulsed. * * * Wilcox has lost in his brigade between three and four hundred men. Bartlett, whose brigade has been principally opposed to him, has seven hundred *hors du combat*.

One of his regiments being on skirmish duty at a distant point, he made the charge alluded to with his three remaining regiments, numbering 1,440 muskets, of which he lost 760. But he had broken two lines of battle and penetrated the enemy's center, and would have maintained himself there, but for the reason given by the Confederate historian in the following sentence: "On the other side of the road the attack, which was not vigorous, has already been repulsed."

At Gettysburgh he was given by General Sedgwick the command of the Third Division of the Sixth Army Corps, retaining its command until the Mine Run campaign, when General Sykes applied for him to command the First Division of the Fifth Corps, which he retained until General Grant took command and consolidated the six corps of the Army into three. That legislated him out of a division command, but the corps commander made up for him the equivalent of a division by giving him nine regiments of veteran troops. With this command he served through the Wilderness campaign and in front of Petersburg. For distinguished services in that campaign he was made brevet major-general.

At the battle of Five Forks he was once more assigned to the command of the First Division of the Fifth Corps, which marched from there to Appomattox Court-House with the cavalry. Being in the advance of the corps the morning Sheridan struck Appomattox, he formed his division in two lines of battle with a cloud of skirmishers in front, and forced the enemy to retire behind the town and received the surrender of a rebel brigade before the general surrender took place.

The next day he was appointed to receive the surrender of the infantry arms of General Lee's army. General Bartlett was hit six times, but never for a day gave up the command of his troops. After the close of the war he was appointed by President Johnson minister resident to Stockholm, where he remained three years.

For an official record of his services he refers to the reports of his commanding officers, without an exception, and also to the records of the State Department.

From the date of his enlistment, April 14, 1861, as a private, to the date of his muster out, as brigadier and brevet major-general, January 15, 1866, he was with the Army of the Potomac, was in every battle and movement, and never had a detail which took him away from his command in the field; was one of the very few officers who had a command at the first Bull Run and at Appomattox Court-House.

Numerous medical certificates on file at the War Department show that during General Bartlett's long period of service he was at times under treatment for rheumatism and other ailments contracted while on duty in the field.

After the war General Bartlett rendered his country several years of distinguished service as minister to Sweden. In 1885 he was appointed Deputy Commissioner of Pensions—a position which he resigned in November, 1889, because of ill health. He was granted a pension under the general law at \$30 per month, because of rheumatism and resulting disease of the heart. The pension certificate was issued in January 1889, and since that time the general's condition has grown steadily worse until he has become utterly incapacitated for any labor, either manual or mental, by which to support himself and two young daughters. His present condition is shown in the following certificate of Dr. James T. Young, a physician in high standing in this city:

WASHINGTON, D. C., *January 7, 1891.*

I hereby certify that I have attended General J. J. Bartlett since March 18, 1888. When I first visited him I found him unconscious and paralyzed, with evidence of long-existing Bright's disease of the kidneys. His condition was alarming, but after a few days he recovered consciousness, and for several weeks remained partially paralyzed.

He is at present considerably emaciated, enfeebled, and walks with an unsteady gait. Slight attacks of indigestion excite a return of the paralysis, more particularly of the left arm.

The rheumatism contracted during the late war left him with heart disease, which, together with the hardships there undergone, resulted in his recent afflictions. He can not recover health; indeed an early fatal termination of his case must be anticipated.

It is necessary for him to be under constant medical observation, and he also requires much of the time the services of an attendant.

JAMES T. YOUNG, *M. D.*

General Bartlett's military career was of the highest order. He passed through all the grades from that of a private soldier to the rank of brevet major-general, and rendered his country nearly five years of gallant and valuable service.

This man is now physically a wreck, in great need, and in danger of early death. He owns no property whatever, and has not a dollar in the world aside from his pension of \$30 per month, which is insufficient even to procure the medical attendance and treatment now constantly necessary to him. These facts are personally known to many members of the House.

The committee would therefore recommend the passage of the bill.